

THE SPECTATOR

Three Narberth Vets Nab Thieves Stealing New Car

This reporter was able to secure a new Ford convertible a few weeks ago which was proving to be a nice piece of transportation. He came pretty near losing it, however, midnight Sunday, when it was taken away from his driveway by a sailor and a civilian who were prowling around Narberth looking for a couple of cars without the need of paying for them. Their first haul was all to the good, but they made the mistake of parking their loot in the quietude of Forrest Avenue, in front of St. Margaret's School, before the eyes of three Narberth men back from the war, Dick Cabrey, former Artillery Captain; Tom Ferguson, B-29 Bomber Pilot, and Jack McKeown, of the Army Medical Corps, all of whom were sitting in Dick's parked car. The thieves had left the Ford in quest of another and were on foot at Windsor and Narberth Avenues when the three veterans pounced on them. In the

melee the sailor managed to get away, but he was caught later hiding in the back seat of a Buick which was parked in a private lane on Montgomery Avenue. In the general confusion, a call went in to Ardmore from a Narberth household that some crooks had jumped out of a car and were beating up two pedestrians. That message brought down the motor squad, which was soon convinced that the reverse was the case. "Augie" Bailey devised the police strategy, and it was his handcuffs which clasped the wrists of the civilian "bender" who was first caught. The sailor pleaded for mercy, saying he was just released from the Navy brig on parole, but it is not likely there will be any leniency, as Narberth has not been particularly troublous with car thieves and the authorities desire to demonstrate that this is a bad place to come to for that sort of thing. THE SPECTATOR.

FORMER PLAYERS DISCUSS TITLE



John H. Jefferies, Jr., of 607 Braeburn Lane, Penn Valley, and William H. Durbin, of 400 Anthony Rd., Merion, both former baseball stars, take time out from their other civic duties in Narberth to discuss the Narberth baseball team's victory in the Main Line League last Sunday. The team defeated Drexel Hill 4 to 2 in the seventh game of the playoffs to win the title for the 19th time. Jefferies was recently discharged from the Navy after duty in the Pacific area. Durbin, prominent Narberth realtor, was recently reelected president of the Narberth Fire Company.

Youth Choir to Sing at Church

A newly organized Youth Choir will make its initial appearance at the Narberth Methodist Church Sunday evening, October 13, at 7:45 P. M., under the direction of E. A. Arnold, of 533 Revere Rd., Merion Park. Arnold, recently appointed organist-director of the choir, has been directing the group for the past several weeks in preparation for their program during the second of a series of Sunday evening services.

G. O. P. Rally Thursday, Oct. 17

A township-wide Republican meeting will be held Thursday, October 17, at 8 P. M., in the Ardmore Women's Club, John A. Lafore, Jr., Chairman of the Lower Merion Township Republican Committee, announced Wednesday.

Speakers at the meeting will include Congressman Samuel K. McConnell, Jr., who is seeking re-election; Lloyd H. Wood, County Chairman and State Senate candidate; and Lambert Cadwalader, State House candidate.

Candidates Meeting to Be Called

A "Know Your Candidates Meeting," sponsored by the Montgomery County League of Women Voters, will be held Friday, October 25, at 8 P. M., at the Ardmore Junior High School. The League has been invited to attend the meeting candidates for Governor, United States Senator, United States Representative from Montgomery County, State Senator and State Representative from the 1st District. The candidates will be asked to discuss questions presented by the League, and will also answer questions from the audience.

Durbin Re-elected Fire Co. Director

William H. Durbin, of 400 Anthony Rd., Merion, was re-elected president of the Narberth Fire Company at a meeting of the Board of Directors held Monday night in Elm Hall. Other officers re-elected are: Franklin C. Hutchinson, vice-president; Richard M. Gillis, treasurer; Richard R. Blessing, financial secretary, and Burns F. Best, secretary.

Police Practice Shooting

Haverford Township police are receiving a six weeks' course in fire arms instruction. The course, which started Saturday, is being taught by William Naylor, an FBI agent from the Philadelphia office.

At Lafayette

Colin E. Brown, of 229 Wayne Ave., and Middleton, of 5 Shirley Rd., Narberth, are among 483 freshmen students enrolled at Lafayette College.

Twenty Are Drawn For Jury Duty

Twenty Main Liners have been chosen for jury duty at sessions of Criminal Court, Norristown for the weeks beginning November 4 and December 2.

Baseball Playoffs

The Main Line Baseball League series concluded Sunday when Narberth took the title for the 19th time. But the belated playoffs, colliding and conflicting with the football season hereabouts, has incurred the wrath of our Mr. Ford.

Don't miss Jack Ford's informative column, the Sports Scene, on the sports page this week. It's a must for Main Liners.

Business to Aid Kelley In P.O. Drive

Narberth Borough business firms are planning to cooperate in stimulating postal volume during National Air Mail Week from October 27 to November 2. Postmaster Joseph Kelley, declared yesterday.

Merchants Plan To Take Advantage of New Air Route

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County to Share Tax Expenses

Lower Merion and Narberth tax collector were notified this week by the Montgomery County Commissioners that the County will share in the cost of tax billing for the year.

Co. Medical Society To Meet Mon., Oct. 14

A regular meeting of the Main Line Branch of the Montgomery County Medical Society will be held Monday, Oct. 14, at 8:30 P. M., at Bryn Mawr Hospital, Dr. Charles H. Classen, Secretary, has announced.

Publisher Succumbs At 57

William Francis Reddington, an executive of Triangle Publications, Inc., of Philadelphia, died of a heart ailment Friday night at his home, Conshohocken Station, and a son, William Frederick Reddington, a student at Valley Forge Military Academy.

Family Sleeps Well Despite Dynamite

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bryan, of 2814 Morris Rd., Ardmore Park, and family slept well Saturday night despite 16 sticks of dynamite stored in the basement.

Miss Semple to Be Married Saturday

The marriage of Miss Margaret B. Semple, daughter of Mrs. Brooks Semple, of 815 Wickfield Rd., Wynnewood, to Elwood William Wright, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Wright, of Oakland, Calif., will take place Saturday in the Church of the Redeemer, Bryn Mawr, in the presence of the immediate families. Canon Ernest C. Eary will officiate.

Stricken With Polio

Linda Esslinger, eight-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George F. Esslinger, of 615 Broad Ave. Rd., Penn Valley, is in Bryn Mawr Hospital suffering from a mild case of polio. Township Health Officer Robert J. Thomas announced this week.

Town Talk

... Being a Column of Chapter A about People You Know

By DOROTHY M. OGDEN

Tucked away behind the Bala Ave. business section there is a machine shop which was a big help to our Air Forces during the war.

The story goes back to 1910 when Herbert Cross decided he wanted to go into business for himself. He bought the property at that address and built himself a house with a shop attached to the back. There he created an engineering business which his son, "Bill," is running today.

Herbert Cross had three children DOROTHY, who is a Professor of Archaeology at Hunter College, New York; LOUISE, who is MRS. JOHN CUSTER, of Penarth Rd., Cynwyd, (who makes beautiful silver jewelry, by the way) and a son, RADLEY, better known as "BILL."

"Bill" graduated from Lower Merion in 1928, and then went to Earlham College in Richmond, Indiana where he studied mechanical engineering. He then went into business with his dad and has been there ever since. In 1945 his father died, and he became head of the business, though he had been a partner since 1935.

Many Main Line and Narberth people were employed at Cross' during the war. At that time, women were taken on—including: MRS. TENNY EDSON, of 833 Buck Lane, Haverford, and MRS. JANE TOWNE WATSON, of 200 Narberth Ave., MRS. BETTY PATCHEN of Sabine Ave., MRS. GUY PETERS of 204 Elm Terrace, and MRS. KAY MITCHELL of S. Narberth Ave. Narberth. JAMES DOUGHERTY over at the Bala-Cynwyd Post Office worked nights during the war, as did RICHARD GIBBONS, the Cynwyd barber. Regular employees from aroundabout include, GEORGE GERENBECK, of Bryn Mawr Ave., Cynwyd, TOM KLOSS of School Lane, Ardmore, HARRY BLANK, of Bryn Mawr Gables and DOROTHY BURCH of Hamilton Court Apartments in Ardmore.

Every except DOROTHY THYRU does the work of a machinist. . . and those who were employed by Cross during the war were trained on the premises. . .

Additions to the shop were made in the thirties when the business expanded. The garage was added and upstairs in the garage there is a knotty-pine office with fluorescent lighting, thick green carpets and Venetian blinds. . .

Many a night, Highland Ave. residents can see those fluorescent lights gleaming from the back of the Cross establishment where "Bill" is working late, hunched over his drawing board, figuring out new machine designs. . .

Barney Fischer Plans L. M. — Radnor Fete

'Tis rumored that grand preparations are to be made in celebration of the 50th year of Radnor-Lower Merion football rivalry. This Main Line classic is one of the oldest school and township rivalries in America, and much tradition is involved with the annual battle between the two adjoining townships.

Much water has run under the dam since that Fall day 50 years ago when the first game was played. And although some of the grandchildren of the original players are now competing the rivalry is just as intense and the overall interest covers a much wider range.

A combined luncheon of the Radnor-Lower Merion graduates of the past 50 years will be held on the day of the game, and Barney Fischer, Lower Merion, announcer for the past 40 years, has been chosen by both schools as chairman of the affair.

Residents Protest Plan to Use Vick's Garage Lot for Storage

Warns Homeless Veterans Are Angry at Empty Homes

Homeless veterans wonder why they fought the war when they see huge Main Line estates untenanted in face of the most severe housing shortage the nation has ever experienced.

This warning, made by Col. James E. Gennung, chairman of the Emergency Housing Committee, was the theme of Monday night's meeting of the group at the Bryn Mawr War Memorial Building. A handful of 20 persons were present at the meeting.

A resolution was passed at the meeting stating that the "aims of the committee are to achieve the greatest possible progress in solving housing needs of veterans and civilians, consistent with the maintenance of the present character of the community as an uncrowded and attractive residential area."

The resolution added that the committee "believes that it will have accomplished its task most successfully if these housing aims can be accomplished with a maximum of private enterprise and a minimum of state and federal governmental agency intervention."

"Shelter obtained through the erection of make-shift or temporary housing structures is not considered appropriate to enlist whole-hearted community support," the resolution stated.

Opposition to plans of the committee to convert old estates into multiple dwelling units for homeless veterans and other citizens was expressed by Graeme Lorimer, president of the Haverford Civic Association.

Lorimer asserted that such action would have a detrimental effect on property values of the community and that residents of

the immediate neighborhood who bought their homes in good faith would suffer.

In addition to recommending that existing structures be re-modeled so as to provide multiple dwellings, the Committee went on record in favor of enlisting the aid of the U. S. Housing Expediter for proper authorization for such conversion work.

Township Aid Asked

The Committee also recommended that the aid of the Township Commissioners be enlisted to facilitate amending existing building codes and zoning regulations to permit the conversion.

The resolution was passed by the group was drawn up by Col. Gennung; Seymour L. Green, of Ardmore, Commander of the Bullock-Sanderson Post, American Legion; Gordon Burlingame, of Bryn Mawr; and B. Paul Cotter, of Narberth, of the Community Health and Civic Association.

Petition On Gas Station Unopposed

Residents of Shirley Rd. and Shirley Circle Narberth turned out Friday night to protest a proposal by Albert Vick, Jr., of 623 Montgomery Ave. Narberth, to use part of his property for storing commercial vehicles and materials. The petitioner is the originator of Vick's Wildgarden.

They attended a special meeting of the Narberth Borough Council called to hear Vick's petition for zoning amendment which would place all of his property in a commercial zone classification. At present, that portion of his property which faces on Montgomery Ave. is zoned for commercial use, but the rest is in a residential zone.

If the amendment is granted, Vick plans to erect storage facilities for trucks, spraying equipment, fertilizer and peat moss.

Robert M. Wilson, of 17 Shirley Rd., secretary of the Board of Zoning Adjustment, was one of those who spoke against the proposed amendment. He pointed out that Shirley Rd. and Shirley Circle residents use their back gardens extensively for entertaining in the summer and that Vick's plan would mean these gardens would have a view of trucks and storehouses.

"These people moved to the suburbs to be surrounded by shrubs, grass, flowers and trees," he said, "and by trucks, fertilizer and cement mixers. They understood, when they purchased their properties that they would be protected by the zoning laws."

Vick countered with the argument that he planned to screen the property so that there would be no objectionable view.

Screening, Wilson returned, would not keep out the smell of fertilizer.

But Vick declared that the fertilizer wouldn't smell.

"It may not smell," put in Miss Maybelle Rose, of 1 Shirley Circle, "but it attracts rats."

Miss Rose also pointed out that if the amendment were granted, it would establish a precedent which would enable other Montgomery Ave. property owners to demand similar zoning changes, thereby depreciating values of abutting Shirley Rd. properties.

Also on the agenda of the special Council meeting was a request by Guy Croyle, of Penn Valley, for a change in the zoning of his property at Woodbine and Montgomery Aves., Narberth, which he plans to use for the establishment of a gas station.

Use of the lot for this purpose would necessitate an amendment which would allow gas stations within the borough limits.

There were no portents made to Croyle's petition.

Benjamin Ludlow, attorney for Croyle, told the Council members that the present prohibition against gas stations is, in his opinion, unconstitutional and creates a monopoly in favor of the existing gas stations in the borough. In addition, he pointed out, it leaves the way open for the establishment of less desirable types of business.

He argued further that the corner, at present zoned for residential purposes, would constitute a traffic hazard if a house were erected there, as it would obstruct vision.

The gas station, on the other hand, would be set back 100 feet from each street, he said, and the Tidewater company would put in a 20-foot radius curb at its own expense.

He added that a commercial property would be of greater revenue value to the borough.

Both petitions were taken under advisement, and the Council's decision will be announced at its regular meeting Monday night.

Franklin Schlegel, Of Bala, Dies At 47

Franklin K. Schlegel, editor and publisher of The Veteran, died Sunday at Philadelphia Naval Hospital as a result of injuries received in the First World War. Mr. Schlegel, who was 47, lived at 36 Bala Ave., Bala. Mr. Schlegel edited The Veteran, a monthly publication, from his Bala home, where he lived for the last five years. He formerly lived in Rummel, N. J. In addition to his wife, Helen E. Schlegel, he is survived by a daughter, Betty; his mother, Mrs. E. Franklin Schlegel, of Reading; and two sisters.

Funeral services were held Tuesday evening from the Hewitt Funeral Home, 248 W. Girard Ave. He was buried with full military honors Wednesday in Arlington Cemetery, Va.

Narberth Looks Like a "One Horse Ghost Town"

Editor, Our Town. Dear Sir:

Was most interested in your rousing editorial by "The Spectator" in your October 3, 1946 issue. Our Town. When I read the editorial, I was quite thrilled, and could hardly wait to look at them—having a sense of great pride come over me to think that my home town had been so honored. But pride cometh before a fall, and I was quite let down when I saw the pictures which looked like the main street of a one horse ghost town in some early wild west movie of an early vintage.

As you brought out, Narberth shopping district draws people from a wide area, which is proven by the almost unsurmountable parking problem. How long this condition will continue is a question, with all the splendid modern markets and shops opening and being remodeled in our immediate locality.

"Merchants Had Better Get Wise" Not only must the outward appearance of Narberth improve, but the merchants themselves had better get wise to themselves and change their attitude, so as you say, the "housewife may regain her natural position as a patron whose trade is sought for and appreciated."

Recently in one of the market on our main street, one of the owners remarked in a very sarcastic manner that customers who didn't come around regularly appeared when there were shortages. It was on the tip of my tongue (being one of that group) to tell him the reason most people only went there during emergencies (which is also understandable as housewives have gone to any effort to feed their families adequately) was because of the rude and sometimes insulting manner customers were treated there, and only the high quality of the goods lured or kept any customers at all.

It has always been a mystery to me during these war years that tradespeople have been so unpleasant, instead of being extra agreeable to make up for inability to serve their customers, who have had to go without service or supplies, and in most cases (more so than with the tradesmen) have cooperated and not complained except in a half joking manner.

Narberth A Ghost Town The houses and roads of Narberth have done their best to improve themselves. Like you, we feel it is high time the Business Section did its part, or it won't be long before Narberth will really become the ghost town it was because of the rude and sometimes insulting manner customers were treated there, and only the high quality of the goods lured or kept any customers at all.

"And I, if I'm lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me." John 12:32. (Writer's name withheld upon request)

Merion Woman First of Her Sex to Teach at Wharton

Elizabeth Wallace, of 521 Grey-stone Rd., Merion, is 24 years old, has red hair and the honor of being the first woman to teach in the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School of Finance and Commerce.

Two weeks ago, Miss Wallace, a Baldwin School graduate had no idea she would be teaching a course in Money and Banking in Wharton School's Finance Department, at that she isn't qualified for the job, because Elizabeth Wallace knows plenty about what the American dollar is worth.

She received her Master of Arts Degree in Finance this past August. Three days before school opened, with an eye to the Doctor of Philosophy Degree, she went to see Professor Charles Whittlesey, head of Wharton's Finance Department.

Miss Wallace expected advice and what she got was a job. Dr. Whittlesey asked her to accept an instructorship in his department. He rushed her through an interview with Dean Canby Balderston and Monday morning Miss Wallace met her first class.

"The first day was the toughest," says Miss Wallace. "Most of the boys walked in and then left when they spotted me because they figured they were in the wrong classroom. I had to rush out into the hall and talk them into coming back. And then I was afraid of the discipline problem. But there is no problem. The students at college these days are very intense, especially

GIRL'S CLUB ORGANIZED

A Girls' Gray Club will be organized at West Manayunk under the leadership of Miss Christine Southard. The first meeting will be held on Saturday at the school at 12:30 P. M. Each girl will bring her own lunch.

Marion Park Dance

A Fall Dance sponsored by the Merion Park Civic Association will be held Friday, November 22, at the Cynwyd Club. Admission is by invitation only.

